

War updates from Amhara Region, Ethiopia – April 14th to 20th, 2025

Updated April 21st, 2025

Overview

For the week of April 14th to 20th, 2025, fighting between *Amhara Fano self-defense* force (Fano) and *Prosperity Party regime joint forces* (regime forces) has continued in various parts of Amhara Region in Ethiopia.¹

- This week battle events and rights violations were recorded in more than 36
 woreda/city administrations across 12 zonal administrations in Amhara Region.
 These zones included the North Wollo, South Wollo, North Shewa, East Gojjam,
 West Gojjam, Awi, North Gojjam, South Gonder, Central Gonder, West Gonder,
 North Gonder and Oromo Special Zones. Developments were also recorded in
 Horo-Guduru-Wollega Zone of Oromia Region and in Addis-Ababa city.
- Civilian casualties were recorded in 7 woreda/city administrations across 3 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These included Minjar-Shekora,

¹Regime forces are primarily comprised of the *Ethiopian National Defense Force* (ENDF) often with backing from regional riot dispursal, militia and police.

Anstokiyana-Gemza, Mida-Woremo, Shebel-Berenta, Enarj-Enawga and Jawi Woredas in North Shewa, East Gojjam and Awi Zones. Civilian casualties were also recorded in Dera Woreda of North Shewa Zone in Oromia Region.

- Widespread arrests were recorded in Raya-Kobo and Jawi Woredas of North Wollo and Awi Zones, respectively. Arrests were also recorded in Dera Woreda of North Shewa Zone in Oromia Region.
- Drone strikes were recorded in Basona-Werana and Enarj-Enawga Woredas of North Shewa and East Gojjam Zones, respectively.

North Wollo Zone

Wadla Woreda

On April 14th, Fano forces ambushed joint regime forces in Guchat. The ambush
was carried out in the morning by the Wubante Abate Division, part of the Amhara
Fano in Wollo (Bete-Amhara) Lasta Asaminew Corps, and targeted ENDF, riot
defense and militias as they were traveling from Kon to Neja town. The ambush
resulted in unspecified casualties, forcing regime forces to retreat to Kon.

Raya-Kobo Woreda

- On April 15th, regime forces stationed in Zobel town conducted arbitrary arrests targeting a group of farmers and engineers who were working on the construction of Tekle-Haymanot Church.
 - At the time of the arrest, the individuals were actively involved in assisting the church's building efforts. Without explanation, ENDF soldiers entered the church compound, detained the individuals, and transported them to a military

- camp in Berberie-Genda. Although the detainees were released after a short period, the reasons for their arrest remain unclear.
- The act has been widely viewed by local residents as an unjustified act of harassment against civilians engaged in peaceful religious and community service.
- Military activities conducted by regime forces near Chorie, an area close to Kobo city have significantly disrupted daily life of residents. Training exercises on April 14th, involving live gunfire and heavy military vehicle movement led to panic among residents, and interruption of the Monday market.

Habru Woreda

- On April 16th, Fano forces conducted an ambush on regime forces in the Faji area.
 - The attack, carried out by the Amhara Fano in Wollo (Bete-Amhara) East
 Amhara Corps 1's Baleshiritu Division, took place between 11:30 am and
 12:30 pm targeting regime forces moving from Girana to capture Habru
 Woreda.
 - The ambush resulted in heavy regime losses; numerous dead and wounded were transported back to Girana by bajaj and ambulances. The attack forced regime units to retreat to Girana.
 - The Baleshiritu Division has also been actively engaged in engaging communities under its administration.

South Wollo Zone

Electricity Outage in Wollo and Shewa Sub-Regions

• Reports indicate a widespread electricity outage across most of South Wollo and parts of North Wollo and North Shewa Zones.² Cities including Dessie, Kombolcha, and Woldia have been affected due to a power pole collapse, as confirmed by a regional head of the Ethiopian Electric Power Corporation speaking to Deutsche Welle. The outage has disrupted industrial activity, particularly affecting factories in these areas.

Regime Forces Defect to Fano

 According to Ethio Focus News, several regime soldiers have defected to Fano in recent days.³ These include 3 defections from Densa town in Amhara-Sayint Woreda of South Wollo Zone, two defections from Minjar-Shenkora Woreda and two defections from the Shewa-Robit city administration of North Shewa Zone. All defections reportedly occurred within the last two days.

Mehal-Sayint Woreda

- A major clash erupted on April 15th, between regime forces and Fano fighters in multiple areas in Mehal-Sayint Woreda.⁴
 - The fighting involved the Amhara-Sayint-Mekdela Division's Atirons Brigade and Qagnoch unit, part of the Amhara Fano in Wollo (Bete-Amhara) Nigus Mikael Corps. Significant engagements occurred at Gudit Mountain,
 Wojed-Megentiua (Dima-Giyorgis), and the Gojjam-Ber area of Densa town.

²See April 14, 2025 report from DW Amharic.

³See April 17, 2025 report from Ethio Focus News.

⁴See April 15, 2025 report from Roha TV.

- In this fighting key regime military leaders were killed, including a battalion commander and a campaign manager. In Gojjam-Ber, the leader of the regime militia, Yezez Melaku, known for his political alignment with the ruling Prosperity Party and who participated in "National Dialogue Commission" meetings in Bahir-Dar city, was among the killed military commanders. Fano forces reported no casualties, although regime mortars destroyed a local farmer's home and livestock.
- Additional regime reinforcements are reportedly en route from Dessie and Mekane-Selam.

Kombolcha City

- The city administration has controversially requested a 100 million birr loan for long-term for cooperative housing savings.⁵
 - A letter dated Megabit 12, 2017 EC (March 21, 2025 GC) and signed by Ato
 Mulugeta Derse, head of the mayor's office, cites a temporary financial crisis.
 The letter asked housing cooperatives to divert funds intended for residential construction to support corridor development and market stabilization projects.
 - Residents expressed outrage and concern about the lack of transparency and fear their savings may not be returned. Some reported being labeled "obstacles to development" or "extremist sympathizers" when they questioned the loan request.

Werebabo Woreda

• On April 17th, a coordinated Fano ambush led to the capture of Bokokisa town.⁶

⁵See April 14, 2025 report from Meseret Media.

⁶See April 17, 2025 report from Roha TV.

- The attack was executed by the Baleshiritu Division's 4th Battalion, part of the Amhara Fano in Wollo (Bete-Amhara) East Amhara Corps 1 as regime troops entered the Haroye area. Fano forces also continued their advance, forcing regime troops to retreat to Bistima town.
- The ambush left 17 regime soldiers killed, 23 wounded, and resulted in the capture of 1,400 rounds of kalashnikov ammunition and body armor.

Wogdi Woreda

- Intense fighting erupted on April 18th, between Fano and regime forces in Makafta,
 Gorenji and Borebor.
 - The battle involved the Amhara-Sayint-Mekdela, Engineer Dessalegn and Mebrek Divisions [under the Amhara Fano in Wollo (Bete-Amhara) Nigus Michael Corps] and lasted from morning until 6 pm. The clash was triggered by an attempted advance by regime forces into the Gorenji and Borebor areas. In response, the Fano launched a strong counteroffensive, involving two divisions attacking across three fronts.
 - Fano forces succeeded in taking control of Gorenji town.⁷

North Shewa Zone

Basona-Werana Woreda

- On April 18th, regime forces attempted to advance from Debre-Birhan toward Gudoberet Kebele.
 - Regime forces were forced to retreat after learning of a planned ambush. The
 ambush was organized by the Muhammad Bihonegn Corps' Dejazmach

⁷See April 18, 2025 report from Black Lion Media.

- Tessema Ergete Division and the Atse Amde-Tsion Corps' Atse Dawit Division (both under the Amhara Fano Shewa Province Command).
- The operation marked a strategic victory for Fano forces, forcing regime troops to withdraw without engagement. Reports indicate that Fano forces captured significant military assets including 19 kalashnikov rifles, 2 sniper rifles, and over 1,500 rounds of ammunition on the campaigns between April 17th and 18th in Kewot, Antsokiyana-Gemza and Basona-Werana Woredas.
- Beyond military engagements, the Amhara Fano Shewa Province Command is providing community services and actively working on institution-building in areas now under its control.
- On April 18th, regime forces conducted a drone strike on Bazo Primary School. The
 attack took place at approximately 6 pm located 14-km from Debre-Birhan city,
 marking the third drone attack on the same location. At least 29 people were killed,
 with others sustaining injuries.

Debre-Birhan City

- On April 10th, regime forces raped a young girl in 02 Kebele of Atse Zera-Yakob sub-city.
 - On the date of the incident, regime forces conducted a house-to-house search in the above-mentioned kebele. During the search, one of the regime soldiers told his friends that he wanted to forcefully have sex with the girl; the soldiers did not hesitate and began to create conditions to rape the girl.
 - To do so, they said, "we have to search this house and only one child can be
 left in the house when we search this house." After arranging things, they
 forced the girl and raped her.

Minjar-Shenkora Woreda

- On the evening of April 14th, Fano forces launched a targeted offensive against regime forces in the Warka area in Sama Kebele.
 - The offensive was carried out by the Nebelbal Brigade, part of the Amhara Fano in Shewa's Kessem Division. The clash occurred as regime forces were traveling from Arerti and Bolo-Giyorgis to Saba Kebele, reportedly to receive leaders from Ajerie. The convoy was heavily armed, including with ZU-23 anti-aircraft weapons. The Fano forces executed the ambush during this movement, initiating a fierce engagement with the regime convoy.
 - During the battle, Fano fighters Shambel Gebre-Medhin and his comrade
 Dirsha Mengistie fought until they exhausted their ammunition. In a final act,
 they reportedly took their own lives rather than be captured by regime forces.
 In addition, an unconfirmed number of regime forces were killed and injured.⁸
 - In the aftermath of the ambush, regime forces retaliated, resulting in the killing
 of one civilian, injury of a female bajaj (three-wheeler) driver and looting of
 civilian property, including cash that local farmers had saved to purchase
 fertilizer.

Kewot Woreda

- On April 17th, Fano forces launched a swift counter-operation against regime forces near Shewa-Robit city.
 - The counter-offensive was against regime soldiers forcibly collecting money from civilians to cover expenses for the Easter holiday in areas such as Armenia. After the operation a fierce battle continued between regime troops and the Aschalew Dessie Division's 4th Battalion, part of the Amhara Fano

⁸See April 15, 2025 report from Roha TV.

Shewa Province Command. The confrontation was initiated by Fano forces and occurred when the regime troops, traveling in seven urals from Shewa-Robit city toward Armenia, allegedly looted civilian property, including oil.

In response, Fano forces ambushed the convoy, reclaimed approximately 3,100
 liters of stolen oil, and committed to returning it to its rightful owners.

Antsokiyana-Gemza Woreda

- On April 18th, Fano forces carried out an attack against regime forces near Mekoy-Giyorgis-Abalo.
 - This offensive was carried out on the third day of the campaign named after Major-General Kefyalew Dessie against regime forces around Antsokiyana-Gemza and in Gudoberet near Debre-Birhan city. The offensive was carried out by the Asteguma Mountain Division Fitawrari Gebeyehu (Abagoraw) Brigade, part of the Amhara Fano Shewa Province Command's Muhammed Bihonen Corps, against regime forces moving from Mekoy toward Gorgwade exit (Arbaratu). The ambush targeted the ENDF 102nd Division, led by General Worku. Regime forces attempting to assert control over the area with patrols every few days are now facing relentless and coordinated Fano resistance. Their operations are being disrupted, and their presence is diminishing.
 - Acting on prior intelligence about troop movements, Fano forces deployed incendiary devices, inflicting significant damage on the regime's convoy. This attack resulted in 7 regime soldiers killed, 13 seriously wounded, and 2 with less severe injuries.
 - In a parallel incident, militia and police forces stationed at Mekoy Stadium

- during Easter celebrations were also targeted by incendiary devices. One militiaman and one policeman were injured.
- In response to the attacks, regime troops reportedly opened fire
 indiscriminately in the city, injuring a bajaj driver. Additionally, civilians
 reported looting by regime forces, including essential items like shiro, pepper,
 and cooking oil.
- Sources confirm that, aside from Mekoy town, surrounding kebeles have been administered under Fano forces, while the regime remains confined to the urban center and continues harassing civilians.

Mida-Woremo Woreda

 On April 18th, a significant clash between Fano forces and regime troops took place in Rema. During the confrontation, a mortar shell launched by regime forces fell into a civilian home, resulting in the death of one civilian and injury of several others.⁹

Oromo Special Zone

Dawa-Chefa Woreda

- On April 19th, Fano forces launched a surprise attack against regime forces in Teref Kebele.
 - The operation was initiated by members of the Atse Guma-Terara Division's
 Biruk Demissie Brigade, part of the Amhara Fano Shewa Province
 Command's Muhamed Bihonegn Corps. The Fano units advanced into Teref
 Kebele, where regime-aligned forces were located.

⁹See April 19, 2025 report from Ethio Focus News.

- As part of the operation, at approximately 8:30 am, the Chairman of Teref Kebele, Ibrahim Ali, was removed from his post. The kebele chairman had been accused of:
 - * repeatedly organizing and leading OLA forces in attacks targeting

 Amhara communities across neighboring kebeles;
 - orchestrating widespread looting of local farmers' property, including food supplies and household goods;
 - deliberately sabotaging community infrastructure, such as ordering the theft of the kebele's electricity transformer, plunging Sirar-Gur into darkness;
 - * confiscating electricity meters from residents, further disrupting daily life;
 - persecuting elderly community members, displacing them from their homes and seizing their belongings;
 - promoting ethnic hatred and encouraging division between Oromo and Amhara communities, and
 - * instigating repeated attacks on the people of Antsokiya, leading to the deaths and injuries of many civilians and significant destruction of property.

East Gojjam Zone

Enarj-Enawga Woreda

- On April 13th, fighting took place in the Debre-Werk town neighborhood.
 - The fighting was reportedly initiated by the Soma Brigade (part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's Belay Zeleke Division). Sources reported that Fano fighters conducted an offensive early that morning in the Weyra area, where regime forces were stationed.

- This offensive led to an exchange of gunfire for hours, resulting in casualties
 on both sides. Reports indicate that Fano fighters killed and injured numerous
 regime soldiers during this confrontation.
- On April 17th, fighting took place in the area commonly known as Metaya.
 - The conflict was initiated by regime forces, who secretly mobilized and attacked the Fano presence. This surprise attack caught the Soma Brigade (part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam) off guard. The regime forces' offensive led to a heavy exchange of gunfire, resulting in casualties among combatants from both sides. At least three Fano fighters were reportedly killed, while others managed to escape. The casualties on the regime's side remain unknown.
 - On the same day, regime forces conducted three consecutive drone strikes in Gedeb Kebele. This location is situated 23-km from the woreda's center, Debre-Werk town. Initial reports indicate that at least 60 individuals were killed in the drone strikes. Shortly after the strikes, regime forces mobilized large contingents from Debre-Werk using three military convoys and advanced towards the Gedeb area, with reports of gunfire exchange in the aftermath.
- On April 17th, regime forces mobilized from Debre-Werk town toward the Gedeb area, the target of the drone strikes.
 - As they approached this area, regime forces indiscriminately fired heavy artillery. Although specific details have yet to emerge, civilian casualties have been reported as a result of this indiscriminate shelling. The following day, April 18th, regime forces entered the Gedeb area, pushing Fano fighters into the desert and jungle regions. Upon the regime forces' entry into the area, residents of Gedeb, particularly young males, reportedly fled their villages and sought refuge in the jungle, where they faced shortages of water and food.

- On the other hand, regime soldiers conducted house-to-house searches, with reports of abuses and violations against civilian residents.
- On April 18th, fighting also took place in Enarj-Sima Kebele. The fighting was initiated by regime forces mobilizing toward the presence of Fano fighters.
 The Soma Brigade (part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam) reportedly confronted the regime forces. The outcome of this gunfire exchange and the resulting casualties remain unidentified.
- On April 18th, a gunfire exchange took place in Gedeb Kebele and surrounding villages.
 - The incident occurred when regime forces were leaving Gedeb Kebele and returning toward Debre-Werk town. During this movement, the Soma Brigade (part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam) confronted regime forces. The exchange of fire was intense, with both parties employing heavy weaponry. Reports indicate that Fano fighters engaged with regime forces in an effort to prevent their return and neutralize the area they had entered.
 - The exchange lasted for several hours and subsided as regime forces managed to pass through, despite suffering casualties. Sources reported at least 14 regime soldiers killed, and several others wounded during this exchange of fire.

Shebel-Berenta Woreda

- On April 13th, heavy fighting occurred in Yedoha town.
 - The fighting was initiated by the Shifferaw Gerbaw Brigade (part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's Belay Zeleke Division). According to sources, Fano fighters infiltrated the town that morning and launched an offensive on the regime encampment. The fighting was so intense that both sides employed

heavy weapons and rifles during the confrontation, leading to civilian and combatant casualties.

 Sources reported at least 15 regime soldiers killed and many others injured during this clash. Sources also confirmed that at least 4 civilians were killed, either by execution or in crossfire. A 7-year-old child was reported among the victims killed during this incident.

Baso-Liben Woreda

On April 14th, a light exchange of gunfire occurred between Kork and Bete-Nigus
Kebeles. This skirmish followed an intense battle that had taken place in the same
location the previous day, where regime soldiers suffered significant losses. The
regime forces mobilized toward Bete-Nigus again on the morning of April 14th but
quickly retreated after encountering Fano resistance before reaching their intended
destination.

Sinan Woreda

- On April 15th, a gunfire exchange took place in the Yedeman area.
 - The exchange reportedly began when Fano fighters launched a sudden attack
 on regime soldiers who were en route from Debre-Markos to Rebu-Gebya.
 The sudden attack was reportedly conducted by the Nigus Tekle-Haymanot
 and Sinan-Abajime Brigades (from the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's Qegn-Geta
 Yoftahe Division). Sources reported that the ambush occurred in the Yedeman
 area, leading to a confrontation.
 - Initial reports indicate several fatalities and injuries among regime soldiers.

Goncha-Siso-Enese Woreda

- On the night of April 15th, an exchange of gunfire took place in the Barjano area.
 - On that day, the Arenzaw Goncha Brigade (part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam) reportedly mobilized towards the Barjano area where regime forces were encamped. Forewarned about the Fano movement, regime forces left the area and began their retreat towards Ginde-Weyn town. While the regime soldiers were vacating Barjano, Fano fighters reportedly conducted an ambush, inflicting casualties. Sources reported at least eight regime soldiers killed during this attack.
 - Following the regime's withdrawal, Fano fighters managed to enter and seize control of the Barjano area. Sources reported that regime forces had been using the Barjano primary school for military purposes until their withdrawal on the night of April 15th. Reports also indicate that regime forces caused destruction to the school materials while they were encamped there.
- On April 17th, gunfire exchanges took place in the Addis-Amba area.
 - The confrontation was initiated by the regime forces, who mobilized from the Motta and Keraniwo bases towards the Awja area. Forewarned about the regime's movement, the Arenzaw Goncha Brigade (part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's Samuel Aweke Division) conducted a preemptive attack in the Addis-Amba area. This attack led to a gunfire exchange, causing regime forces to retreat back towards their departure points.
 - The resulting casualties from both sides during the confrontation remain unknown.

Awabel Woreda

On April 16th, Fano fighters conducted a military operation in the small town of
Wejel. This operation was reportedly carried out by brigades from the Amhara Fano
in Gojjam's Haddis Alemayehu Division. The operation was reportedly completed
with light gunfire exchanged. Sources reported at least eight regime soldiers
captured during this operation.

Debay-Telatgin Woreda

- On April 17, heavy fighting occurred in the Deboza Kebele.
 - The fighting was initiated by regime forces, who mobilized from Quyi town towards Deboza Kebele. The Yebokla Abay and Mebreku Brigades from the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's Haddis Alemayehu Division reportedly confronted regime forces. Fano fighters inflicted casualties and successfully repelled regime forces' attack during the confrontation.
 - Sources reported at least 5 regime soldiers killed and 12 wounded during this exchange of gunfire.

Sedie Woreda

- On April 18th, an intense exchange of gunfire occurred in Sedie town.
 - The fighting was initiated by combined brigades from the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's Tefera Damtie Division and the Arenzaw Goncha Brigade from the Samuel Aweke Division. This exchange of gunfire was particularly intense, with both sides employing heavy weaponry, resulting in significant casualties for both parties. Initially, Fano fighters overwhelmed regime forces, completely neutralizing those stationed in the area. However, regime forces subsequently mobilized reinforcements from Ginde-Weyn and Motta towns,

who unexpectedly arrived at the battle locations. This led to another round of heavy gunfire as regime forces attempted to regain control of the town. This exchange resulted in the deaths of nine Fano fighters.

 During the confrontation in Sedie town, Fano fighters claimed to have inflicted heavy casualties on regime soldiers. Sources reported over 100 regime soldiers killed and injured, 61 soldiers captured, and over 70 firearms seized, including rifles and snipers, along with thousands of rounds of ammunition of various types.

Enemay Woreda

- Between April 18th and 19th, heavy fighting occurred in Dima town.
 - The conflict was initiated by regime forces who mobilized from Debre-Werk and Bichena towns to attack the Fano presence. Initially, regime forces persistently shelled the Dima neighborhood using long-range artillery, which reportedly inflicted property damage. Soon after, regime forces advanced toward Dima town with mechanized and ground troops. The Aba-Kostir Brigade (part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam) then confronted regime forces for an extended period, with reports of casualties on both sides.
 - Sources confirmed that at least 4 Fano fighters were killed during this
 confrontation, while casualties among regime forces were described as
 numerous. Witnesses reported seeing regime forces transporting dead bodies
 and wounded soldiers toward Bichena town.
 - On the same day, Fano fighters also launched an attack in the Telima and Weyra areas.

West Gojjam Zone

Jabi-Tehnan Woreda

- On April 15th, Fano fighters carried out an operation in Jiga town. The operation
 was conducted without a gunfire exchange. According to sources, Fano fighters
 suddenly infiltrated and captured two individuals whom they accused of being
 regime agents. This operation was conducted by the Arenzaw-Damot Brigade of the
 Amhara Fano in Gojjam's Ras-Bitwedded Mengesha Atikem Division.
- On the night of April 15th, an exchange of gunfire occurred in the Finote-Selam neighborhood.
 - Sources reported that the gunfire initiated from the Arenzaw Brigade (part of
 the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's Ras-Bitwedded Mengesha Atikem Division).
 The Fano fighters advanced overnight to the regime's encampment in the
 Shenbequma area and launched an attack against regime forces. The exchange
 of fire was brief, lasting no more than two hours.
 - Although specific numbers were not provided, sources reported several regime soldiers killed and injured, which prompted regime troops to retreat to Finote-Selam city.

Awi Zone

Guagusa-Shikudad Woreda

- Between April 12th and 13th, heavy fighting took place in the Ashifa area.
 - The fighting was initiated by the combined Fano brigades of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division, who conducted an offensive on the afternoon of April 12th. This offensive led to an intense exchange of gunfire,

which continued until the next morning. Tension and fighting continued to escalate in the Ashifa area, with both warring parties struggling to maintain control over this strategic location.

 Sources reported 86 regime soldiers killed, an unspecified number injured, and the capture of 51 firearms, along with tens of thousands of rounds of ammunition of different types.

Dangila Woreda

- On April 15th, Fano forces conducted an operation in the Dangila neighborhood.
 - The operation was conducted by the Bitwedded Mengesha Jembere Brigade
 (part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division) when
 regime forces were moving from Dangila town toward the Injibara direction.
 The Fano fighters suddenly opened fire, targeting the regime patrol vehicle.
 - Sources reported at least 10 regime soldiers killed and others injured during this operation.

Jawi Woreda

- Between April 18th and 19th, regime forces carried out a series of violations in Jahimala Kebele, resulting in loss of life, abductions, and extensive property destruction.
 - According to sources, on April 18th, regime forces mobilized from Fendika
 town, unexpectedly entering Jahimala Kebele. Local Fano fighters briefly
 engaged regime forces in an attempt to defend the area, but were ultimately
 forced to retreat. Many residents fled in fear of being attacked, seeking refuge
 in nearby villages.

- Sources reported regime forces shot and killed three civilians while trying to
 leave the area. Two of the victims have identified as Alemu Takele and Babew
 Mengistu, while the name of the third victim remains unidentified.
- Subsequently, regime forces reached out to the fleeing residents, assuring them that their focus was solely on locating the Fano fighters and that civilians would not face harm. Trusting this claim, some residents returned to their homes. However, those who returned were subjected to physical and verbal abuse as regime forces sought to extract information regarding whereabouts of Fano fighters and their residences. Following this, regime forces engaged in arbitrary beatings and arrested over 50 civilians. Moreover, regime forces conducted extensive property looting, with soldiers burning and destroying private property including food and traditional beverages, leaving many residents without essential resources.
- As the situation continues to escalate residents remained displaced even days later in neighboring villages, fearing further retaliation.

North Gojjam Zone

North Mecha Woreda

- On April 14th, an exchange of gunfire took place in Merawi town.
 - The fighting began when the Colonel Tadesse Muluneh Brigade (part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's 1st Division) suddenly infiltrated the town around midday. Upon entering the town, Fano fighters targeted regime forces, leading soldiers to confine themselves to their encampment. The regime forces then resorted to arbitrary shelling with heavy rifles from their camp. After hours of gunfire, the fighting subsided as Fano fighters withdrew from the town.
 - Sources reported at least 5 regime soldiers killed during the exchange.

Yilmana-Densa Woreda

- On April 16th, regime forces mobilized a large contingent from Adet and Bahir-Dar city towards rural kebeles in Yilmana-Densa and Bahir-Dar-Zuriya Woredas.
 - Reports indicate that the regime's mobilization of forces concluded without success, as the Fano fighters executed a strategic retreat due to the unequal distribution of human and mechanized military resources.
 - Reports also indicate that regime forces committed massacres against civilians during their retreat, particularly in Angar Kebele of Yilmana-Densa Woreda and Wejir-Weldementa Kebele in Bahir-Dar-Zuriya Woreda.

South Gonder Zone

- Reports indicate that regime political cadres are actively engaged in a campaign of forced recruitment of young people into the military within South Gonder Zone.
 - On April 17th, civil servants in Nefas-Mewcha town, located in the Lay-Gayint Woreda, were instructed by top officials within the Lay-Gayint Woreda administration to actively recruit and provide at least one youth each for the government forces. In addition to this directive, a number of young people were forcibly taken in Ibnat town. These youths were rounded up unexpectedly while they were in the vicinity of Ibnat town's bus station and market center. Witnesses report that the youths, transported in Isuzu trucks, were heard calling for help as they were taken to military training centers.
 - Informants estimate that the number of forcibly recruited youths is approximately 35.

Fogera Woreda

- On April 14th, the Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder command announced the formation of a new division operating within the woreda.
 - This division, named the Shaleqa Fanaye Wube Division, is comprised of both experienced Fano fighters and newly trained recruits. The division includes the Guzara, Arnogari and the Tana-Hayq Brigades. Fano Aleme Baye has been appointed as the division's chief commander, with Geze Yalew serving as the vice-commander. The chief of military campaigns is Ayenew Mekuante, and the vice-chief is Alebachew Abre. Additionally, the division is supported by a 22-member executive body.
 - With the establishment of the Shaleqa Fanaye Wube Division, the Amhara
 Fano Unity in Gonder now encompasses a total of 31 well-trained and
 well-equipped divisions under its command. This makes the command the
 largest command within the Amhara Region, boasting a significant number of
 fighters within its ranks.

Ibnat Woreda

- On April 16th, Fano forces conducted an ambush on regime forces in Qualisa town, specifically at Dirquaze-Gebriel.
 - The ambush was carried out by the Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder's
 Zozamba-Nigus Division as regime forces were deploying from Ibnat town to
 Qualisa town. This surprise attack resulted in heavy casualties for the regime
 joint forces, with 65 reportedly killed and 42 suffering from varying degrees of
 physical injuries.
 - In the aftermath of the attack, regime joint forces retaliated by engaging in acts
 of destruction and looting of civilian property in both Qualisa town and Walwa

village. They confiscated a significant number of livestock from local farmers, falsely accusing them of being sympathizers of Fano forces.

- On April 17th, the regime joint forces, guided by local militia members, looted over 120 cattle from farmers in Qualisa and surrounding rural villages.
 - The justification provided for this action was that the farmers were allegedly related to Fano fighters. Reportedly, no families with ties to the Fano were spared from this confiscation of property. The primary motivation behind the looting appears to be the need to procure livestock for slaughter in order to provide meat for regime forces during the upcoming Easter holiday. All of the seized cattle were driven to Ibnat town.
 - Such unethical and unlawful behavior on the part of the militia forces risks
 escalating the conflict, potentially prompting Fano forces to engage in similar
 retaliatory actions, given that the families of militia members and regular army
 soldiers also reside in these areas.
- On April 20th, a team of Fano operatives assassinated a military intelligence officer in Ibnat town.
 - The assassination was carried out by a group of six individuals, former Fano
 fighters who had ostensibly defected to the regime side under the amnesty
 program offered to Fano members. Having gained acceptance into the local
 militia force, these Fano members were able to covertly plan and execute their
 operation.
 - The intelligence officer was killed along with his bodyguards. During the
 attack, the Fano operative leading the assault was wounded by a pistol shot
 from the intelligence officer before the officer was neutralized by the other

Fano members. Although injured, the leader attempted to escape, but his wound hampered his efforts.

- In response to the assassination, regime forces immediately implemented a blockade, sealing off all exit routes from Ibnat town in the evening. Joint forces were deployed to apprehend the escaped Fano members, but the search proved unsuccessful. The Fano operatives, having completed their mission, defected from the government-backed militia and rejoined the Fano forces, taking with them all the military equipment they had been provided with during their time in the militia.

Debre-Tabor City

• During the night of April 16th, Fano forces launched a surprise attack that resulted in the confirmed deaths of two militiamen. A Prosperity Party official, whose identity remains unknown, was accompanying the militiamen at the time of the attack and narrowly escaped with their life.

Andabet Woreda

- On April 19th, regime forces initiated an operation to disarm legally armed farmers in various locations throughout Andabet Woreda.
 - The primary targets of this disarmament effort were farmers residing in Jaragedo town and kebeles of Merji, Simet-Giyorgis, Minduqe-Maryam, and Wudye-Gebriel. However, the Andabet Brigade, a unit within the Guna division (part of the Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder), launched a surprise counter-attack against these regime troops.
 - The ambush resulted in significant casualties for regime forces, with at least 9
 soldiers confirmed dead and 7 others sustaining injuries ranging from critical

to minor. Following this successful assault by Fano forces, regime forces were compelled to abandon their planned disarmament operation and retreat back to Andabet town.

Central Gonder Zone

Central Armachiho Woreda

On April 14th, Fano forces launched a surprise ambush against regime troops
patrolling outside Sanja town. This unexpected assault resulted in significant
casualties among regime militias, with reports indicating a high number of both
wounded and killed. Among those killed in the Fano attack was the militia forces
coordinator, a key figure in the local security structure, along with numerous other
militiamen.

Gonder-Zuriya Woreda

- On April 13th, the Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder command announced the formal establishment of a new Fano division operating within Gonder-Zuriya Woreda.
 - This division has been named the Tiqur-Anbesa Division, a symbolic reference to the historically significant patriotic units that resisted the fascist invasion during the Second Italo-Ethiopian War. The division is comprised of several brigades and battalions already active in the Gonder-Zuriya area. The founding units, each with its own distinct identity, include the Jantekel Brigade, Dil-Ber Brigade, Nisir Brigade, Werq-Anba Brigade, Ras Amoraw Brigade, and Debol Battalion. Anteneh Birhan has been appointed as the military commander of the division, with Libarg Mulat serving as the vice-commander. Other leadership positions within the division have also been filled.

 On April 16th, intense fighting erupted between Fano forces and regime forces in the Wuzaba, Wuglo, and Ambo-Ber villages. The fighting involved the Gonder and Fasil Brigades (part of the Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder's Gondere-Begashaw Division). The brief but fierce engagement resulted in significant casualties for regime forces.

Tegede Woreda

Early in the morning of April 16th, Fano forces engaged in combat with the regime forces. In a significant victory, the Wagshum Brigade, a unit within the Wawa-Gobbe Division (part of the Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder), successfully regained control of Segalo town after inflicting substantial casualties on regime's forces. Segalo town serves as administrative center (and sub-woreda) of Tegede district.

Gonder City

- On April 15th and 16th, a series of meetings were held in Gonder city, convened by political cadres and command post military officers.
 - During these meetings, a significant admission was made by the military officers: they stated that the hostage-taking activities plaguing Gonder city were being perpetrated by members of the Amhara Regional State security personnel. Furthermore, it was announced that the peace and security coordinator for Arada sub-city of Gonder was discovered to be directly involved in these hostage-taking operations, in collaboration with his security detail. Both the coordinator and his bodyguards have been taken into custody. The military officers emphasized that a majority of the hostage incidents in Gonder city were being masterminded by officials from the Prosperity Party

- within the Gonder city administration. To conceal their criminal activities, these officials would then attribute the hostage takings to Fano forces.
- As an example, they cited the case of Anbachew Atnafu, a head of Gonder city's peace and security authority in Arada sub-city, who was allegedly involved in large-scale hostage operations. Anbachew Atnafu, in his role as a peace and security official, was deeply implicated in widespread hostage-taking, targeting even local village staff suspected of possessing wealth. His actions significantly contributed to the growing frustration and desperation among Gonder city residents. Despite operating under the watch of the military forces, he allegedly orchestrated the systematic abduction of business leaders and high-ranking officials within Gonder city.
- The military officials openly informed the political cadres that individuals appointed to peace and security positions based on family connections were, in fact, deeply involved in hostage-taking. Numerous participants voiced their concern that corruption was pervasive throughout all levels of the Gonder city administration, with no public service rendered without the expectation of bribes. Furthermore, even within the ruling Prosperity Party, disillusionment was rampant. Officials, believing the government was failing and perhaps even collapsing, reportedly engaged in looting government property, justifying their actions as seizing a "golden opportunity" presented by the ongoing conflict.
- During the meetings, the Mayor and Deputy Mayor engaged in a heated dispute, each accusing the other of orchestrating corruption and looting through their respective networks of family and associates. The presiding officer of the meeting then issued a stern warning, stating that any official expressing the opinion that the Prosperity Party had failed, or was destined to fail, would face immediate dismissal and detention.
- Separately, on the night of April 16th, repeated exchanges of gunfire were

heard in Tseda sub-city, although the reason for this outbreak of violence remains unknown.

West Gonder Zone

Qwara Woreda

- On April 14th, regime forces initiated a period of heavy artillery shelling, targeting villages in the vicinity of Shinfa town.
 - The following day, April 15th, saw a significant deployment of regime troops to Gelego town, administrative center of the woreda. This deployment included a large contingent of highly mechanized units alongside infantry forces.
 - Despite this substantial increase in the regime's military presence, no clashes between Fano forces and regime troops have been reported in the area since the deployment.
- On April 16th, regime forces carried out a widespread deployment across both
 Qwara and Metemma Woredas.
 - These forces, dispatched from Shinfa town, were strategically positioned in the villages of Megenteya, Dubaba, Qutir 2, and Qutir 4. The deployment involved a significant number of troops, including both mechanized units and infantry. Despite this substantial military build-up, no active clashes between Fano forces and regime forces have been reported in these areas. The regime forces are also reportedly constructing new military entrenchments in the Shikuriya sub-district, located near Shinfa town.
 - In a notable development, a considerable number of regime forces, including riot dispersal units and regular soldiers, have defected to the Fano ranks.

Specifically, over 15 members of the riot dispersal units joined the Atanaw Wassie Division (part of the Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder), bringing their military equipment with them. An additional 25 riot dispersal forces and regular soldiers have aligned themselves with the Begemidir Division, which is part of the Amhara Fano Gonder Province Command. Furthermore, 17 former regime soldiers defected but have yet to join any established Fano unit; these individuals remain outside formal Fano membership.

North Gonder Zone

Dabat Woreda

- On April 14th, unknown individuals abducted two medical doctors from Dabat General Hospital.
 - The victims included a general practitioner and an emergency fetal surgeon, both seized from their homes during the night. The hostage takers demanded a ransom of 500,000 birr for each doctor's release. The situation prompted widespread fear among the hospital's remaining medical staff, leading many to flee Dabat town in anticipation of facing similar threats.
 - On April 15th, both abducted doctors were released after a sum of money was paid as ransom, though it is unclear if the full amount was delivered.
 Subsequently, family members of the doctors organized a group of elders and sent them to negotiate with the hostage-takers, successfully securing the reimbursement of the ransom money. This hostage-taking incident highlights a larger trend of insecurity in Dabat Woreda.
 - Just last week, humanitarian aid workers transporting essential supplies to
 Beyeda, Janamora, and Telemt were also taken hostage near Gedebye town.
 This escalating crisis has prompted humanitarian aid organizations, including

- the *World Food Programme* (WFP) and *Food for the Hungry* (FH), to suspend delivery of life-saving assistance to these regions, exacerbating the already precarious situation for vulnerable populations.
- During the night of April 16th, a significant number of militia forces stationed in Boza village were captured by Fano fighters.
- While the precise number of captured militiamen is unknown, it is believed that nearly all of them were taken. The militia forces reportedly offered little resistance during their capture.
- Meanwhile, the regime has initiated a large-scale deployment of forces to the Dabat, Qola-Wegera and Adarkay Woredas in North Gonder Zone, and Tegede Woreda, located in Central Gonder Zone. This deployment commenced on April 16th, and Fano forces have already engaged these newly deployed regime troops in numerous confrontations. The Fano forces have claimed to have established nine separate battlefields and have announced the deaths of over 100 regime soldiers, with many more sustaining injuries. The attacks were launched in a coordinated fashion across all battlefields. Key Fano units involved in these engagements include the Wawa Gobbe, Atanaw Wasie, Chenna, Semien Ambaras, Gondere-Begashaw, and various brigades from the Arbegnoch Divisions (under the Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder).
- Starting on April 16th, a significant military deployment has been observed throughout Qola-Wegera and Adarkay Woredas, encompassing a vast area. This military movement extends in five distinct directions: from Armachiho towards northeastern parts of Dabat Woreda (Janora, Ajire), to Debark Woreda, from Adarkay Woreda to Tegede and Janora, from Tegede Woreda to Qola-Wegera, and from Dabat to Enqash.
 - On April 16th, intense fighting occurred in Ajire-Janora between Fano forces

and regime troops.

- The regime forces suffered heavy casualties during this engagement, which unfolded across six separate locations. The regime's attempt to encircle the Fano forces was met with fierce resistance, resulting in substantial losses for regime troops.
- Similarly, on April 17th, fighting erupted again in six different areas within Ajire-Janora, supported by the use of heavy weaponry. The regime deployed heavily armed mechanized units to these battle zones. This large-scale operation has been described by regime forces as a "cluster campaign," encompassing four woredas and five regions in a broad offensive against Fano forces.

Welkait-Tegede-Setit Humera Zone

- On the evening of April 14th, the complete telecommunication blackout across the zone which lasted for three days, affecting all nine districts (woredas) and city administrations, was lifted. During this period, all forms of telecommunication services, including internet access, were entirely unavailable throughout the zonal administration. The reason for this comprehensive disruption has been attributed to an unforeseen fiber optic cable cut. This damage reportedly caused the complete cessation of all communication services within the zone.
- On April 16th, The Welkait-Tegede-Setit Humera Zone administration has recently
 announced the completion of a political and military training program for civil
 servants, encompassing personnel from the highest levels of the zonal
 administration down to local village (kebele) staff.
 - The administration underscored the readiness of the Welkait people to defend their territory against any potential incursions across the Tekezze River,

emphasizing both armed resistance and ideological struggle for those not yet fully aware of the Welkait Amhara identity. The training program was designed to provide administrative staff with the necessary knowledge and military skills to support the Tekezze Guard forces, who are tasked with safeguarding the zonal administration from any potential invasion.

- In their announcement, the administration stressed that true freedom cannot be exchanged for budgetary allocations from the federal government. Instead, they affirmed their unwavering commitment to securing the independence of the Welkait people through financial support from both domestic and diaspora communities.
- On April 20th, the Welkait-Tegede-Setit Humera Zone administration issued a strong statement in response to a pronouncement made by TPLF on April 18th.
 - The TPLF statement had denounced the recent military training provided to civil and political administrative staff within Welkait-Tegede-Setit Humera (Welkait) Zone. Furthermore, the TPLF accused the Welkait administration of promoting war and demanded that they withdraw from what the TPLF considers Tigray territory. The TPLF statement also called for strict adherence to the Pretoria agreement, insisting that all armed forces currently located within Welkait territory which the TPLF claims as part of Tigray's eastern zone must immediately withdraw and cede control of the region to the TPLF.
 - In its response, the Welkait administration firmly asserted that Welkait has
 historically and culturally deep ties to the historic province of
 Begemidir-Gonder (Amhara Region). The administration emphasized that it
 was TPLF forces who illegally annexed Welkait to Tigray, employing tactics
 of extermination against the native Welkait-Amhara population. The
 administration maintained that the people of Welkait are committed to

ensuring peace within the zonal administration and protecting their territory from both external and internal threats. Characterizing themselves as peace-loving, the Welkait administration accused the TPLF of being war-mongers, relentlessly seeking to annex Welkait territory into the Tigray region while disregarding the fundamental rights and concerns of the Welkait-Amhara people. They further accused the TPLF of forgetting the genocide committed against the native Welkait-Amhara population, as well as the TPLF's policy of resettling Tigrayan people into Welkait in an attempt to alter the demographics of the area, replacing native inhabitants with newcomers from the Tigray ethnic group.

- The Welkait administration declared that this behavior is unacceptable and that
 the people of Welkait will never submit to slavery or relinquish their land to
 Tigrayan forces who have crossed the Tekezze River, which constitutes the
 natural border between the Tigray and Amhara regional states.
- The "Tekezze-Guard", composed of native Welkait-Amhara people, are framed as a peace-keeping force and a defense mechanism against invasion, not an imported force from other parts of Amhara Region. The administration emphasized the inherent right of any people who are denied protection to defend themselves.
- Finally, the Welkait administration stated that the TPLF's demand for the
 removal of the native Welkait-Amhara people from the Welkait-Tegede-Setit
 Humera Zone comes as no surprise, as it is consistent with the TPLF's past
 actions of displacing, killing, and replacing native Welkait-Amhara residents
 with newcomers.
- Credible reports indicate that TPLF forces, operating from bases within Sudan, are currently conducting military training exercises in Shererina village, located along the border between Sudan and the Welkait-Tegede-Setit Humera

Zone. This training began on April 15th, and reportedly focuses on the operation and maintenance of heavy military weaponry. The Samri group, known for their alleged involvement in past atrocities, is said to be spearheading this training, an action that the Welkait administration views as a provocative and warmongering act by the TPLF.

- Furthermore, it is alleged that four divisions of TPLF forces are actively engaged in the ongoing Sudanese civil war, fighting alongside General Al-Burhan's forces. These divisions are reportedly commanded by General Muzeyin. In exchange for their military services, the Sudanese military has allegedly promised to support the TPLF in "liberating" Welkait-Tegede and annexing it into the Tigray Regional State, with the provision of heavy weaponry as a key component of this agreement. It is believed that this TPLF faction, having served as mercenary forces in Sudan, has subsequently been supplied with advanced military equipment.
- This renewed military activity coincides with the recent appointment of
 General Tadesse Werede as provisional president of the Tigray government.
 Significantly, General Tadesse Werede has publicly stated that any territory
 historically belonging to Tigray but currently outside its borders will be
 reclaimed by any means necessary, suggesting a willingness to use force.

Addis-Ababa City

- On April 14th, Amnesty International released a statement urging Ethiopian authorities to immediately halt the *Corridor Development Project* (CDP).¹⁰
 - The report states that at least 872 individuals were forcibly evicted from Bole and Lemi-Kura Sub-cities in November 2024, including 254 homeowners

¹⁰See April 14, 2025 statement from Amnesty International.

- from 47 households (114 children, 13 elderly) and 618 tenants.
- The evictions were reportedly carried out without compensation, prior
 consultation, or notice—a violation of international human rights standards.
- Amnesty warns that the lack of legal safeguards has created a climate of fear among urban populations nationwide.
- On April 14th, defendants in the case under Wondwossen Assefa were reportedly barred from appearing in court. 11 They were preparing for a witness hearing scheduled by the prosecution but were unexpectedly told they could not attend.
- Public Officials have expressed their resentment on the file of the Defamation Case against Seyoum Teshome.¹²
 - H.E. Yohannes Buayalew, a member of the Amhara Regional State Council, and Hon. Christian Tadele, a member of the House of Peoples'
 Representatives and an executive member of opposition party, the *National Movement of Amhara* (NaMA), have expressed their resentment over a filed criminal case against Seyoum Teshome, accusing him of defamation. Despite being summoned by the court, Seyoum Teshome failed to appear, including on April 17th. His repeated absence has raised concerns from the complainants, who claim the legal process is being obstructed.
 - During the court proceedings, the two public officials made statements
 expressing frustration over what they see as selective enforcement of justice.
 - Statement from H.E. Yohannes Buayalew: "I believe the government is
 enabling him to insult us while also threatening the integrity of this trial. It's
 both absurd and disgraceful for the police to claim they can't bring in a
 pro-government activist sitting comfortably in Addis-Ababa—especially when

¹¹See April 15, 2025 report from Ethio Focus News.

¹²See April 18, 2025 report from Ethio Focus News.

they were able to extradite Gobeze from Djibouti. Seyoum Teshome is someone the government supports with a car, housing, an escort, a monthly salary, and a permanent role as a commentator on state media, particularly Ethiopian Television. The same police who claim to have detained innocent Ethiopians—including Amharas and even members of parliament—are protecting Seyoum. This undermines the principle that all citizens are equal before the law. The government is placing its loyalists above the law while torturing and unlawfully detaining those who oppose it."

- Statement from Hon. Christian Tadele: "this is why we argue that Ethiopia's justice system is plagued by double standards. We call for accountability, starting with the Federal Police Commissioner, for preventing Seyoum from being brought to justice. Seyoum Teshome is the Prime Minister's social media advisor. The police's failure to present him in court clearly shows that he is treated as a first-class citizen—someone who is seemingly above the law. Only second- and third-class citizens are forced to appear in court. If Seyoum were Amhara, he would have been compelled to show up. Today, being Amhara effectively means being treated as a third-class citizen. It is deeply shameful that while the authorities are imprisoning 200 Amharas over current political issues, they are actively shielding Seyoum in Addis-Ababa. If a man facing a potential death sentence is influencing the trial from outside the courtroom, then the outcome of this case is already predetermined."
- The court has issued a final order requiring Seyoum Teshome to appear on April 29th.

North Shewa Zone (Oromia Region)

Statement from the Amhara Fano in Shewa on deadly attacks on civilians in Dera Woreda [April 17, 2025]

- The Amhara Fano in Shewa issued a strong statement condemning the brutal attack perpetrated by regime forces against civilians in Dera Woreda.¹³
 - According to the statement: "the heinous act committed by the fascist Abiy
 Ahmed regime against innocent Amhara civilians in Dera Woreda is a clear
 sign of its desperation and defeat."
 - On April 17th, during the final week of the Christian holy period of *Semune Hammanat*, the ENDF and Oromia Special Forces, acting in coordination, reportedly carried out atrocities against Christian worshippers at the following churches in Dera Woreda: Gebre-Kristos Church (Hadyo Kebele), Amanuel Church (Gebru Kebele), and Giyorgis Church (01 Kebele).
 - These civilians were attacked in the sacred sites during active religious
 ceremonies, amplifying the severity of the offense against the Christian
 community. The statement details that regime forces killed and injured
 civilians, forcibly displaced residents, and looted livestock and property, using
 heavy weaponry in the assault.
 - This act, as emphasized by the Fano leadership, constitutes not only a violation of human rights, but also an assault on religious freedom and dignity.

Dera Woreda

 On April 17th, a coordinated offensive was launched by ENDF and Oromia-affiliated militias targeting civilians in Legejima, Arkiso, Gebiro, Yimanie, and Keraba-Melelego.

¹³See April 19, 2025 statement from Amhara Broadcasting Center (ABC) TV.

- The offensive reportedly involved the use of ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns and mortars. Casualties are currently under investigation.
- According to sources, armed forces arbitrarily arrested six civilians in Salayish town, and looted private properties, including livestock.¹⁴
- The arrested individuals have been identified as:
 - 1. Ato Yazew Zewde
 - 2. Ato Adamu Zewde
 - 3. Ato Zenebe Zewde
 - 4. Temi Deres
- Joint regime forces—comprising the ENDF, Oromo militias, and OLA—have launched coordinated attacks on civilians in Dera Woreda. These assaults have resulted in multiple deaths, injuries, and widespread looting of civilian property.¹⁵ The worst-affected areas include Hadiyo, Gebru, and 01 Kebeles. Civilians were targeted while attending church for the Semune-Himamat celebration, as well as while traveling to the church.
- On April 17th, sources reported that around 11 civilians were killed, and 14 others were injured—many of whom fled into nearby forests for safety. Large numbers of cattle were looted under the pretext of alleged support for Fano forces. Regime forces conducted assaults in residential neighborhoods, while civilians attempting to escape into the forest were reportedly ambushed by OLA militants.

¹⁴See April 16, 2025 report from Ethio News.

¹⁵See April 19, 2025 report from Ethio Focus News.

About the Amhara Association of America (AAA)

The Amhara Association of America (AAA) is a non-profit civic organization based in Charlotte, North Carolina that investigates and documents human rights violations in the context of conflict, violence and political repression in Ethiopia. AAA seeks to inform U.S. policymakers, international human rights organizations, journalists, researchers, and all Ethiopian stakeholders to pressure Ethiopian leaders to change laws, policies, and practices in Ethiopia so perpetrators are held accountable and victims receive justice. AAA also collaborates with Amhara organizations in the U.S., supports independent Amhara organizations in Ethiopia, and provides humanitarian aid for Amharas impacted due to targeted ethnic attacks. AAA's funding comes directly from members and supporters; the organization is not affiliated with any Ethiopian or American political or governmental entities.

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